

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the present application.

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently amended) A method for predicting the relative survival time of a human subject having multiple sclerosis, comprising:

a) obtaining a sample from a human subject having multiple sclerosis; and

b) evaluating the DNA of the sample for the presence or absence of a CCR5 delta 32 mutation ~~in the CCR5 gene, wherein the presence or absence of the a CCR5 delta 32 mutation correlates to reduced relative survival time~~ of subjects having multiple sclerosis.

2-3. Cancelled

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is whole blood.

5-6. Cancelled.

7. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein predicted survival time of a human subject having multiple sclerosis and the presence of a CCR5 delta 32 deletion mutation is shorter than predicted survival time of a human subject having multiple sclerosis and the absence of a CCR5 delta 32 mutation.

8. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein predicted survival time of a human subject having multiple sclerosis who is homozygous for the CCR5 delta 32 deletion mutation is shorter than predicted survival time of a human subject having multiple sclerosis who is heterozygous for the CCR5 delta 32 deletion mutation.